

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS KNABE AND RIDLEY-THOMAS

November 8, 2011

In the late 1990's, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and Army Corps of Engineers made significant improvements to the Los Angeles River and several of its' tributaries, including Compton Creek, to alleviate flood risk and eliminate the need for mandatory flood insurance. As a result of major disasters in 2005, such as Hurricane Katrina, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under the National Flood Insurance Program (Program) mandated that all levees within flood control systems be re-analyzed to verify their level of flood protection. As a result of this re-analysis, it has been determined that levees along Compton Creek and Dominguez Channel do not meet FEMA's criteria for levee certification.

Due to recent changes in the FEMA's Program, an estimated 11,000 homes and businesses in Los Angeles County may soon be remapped into special flood hazard areas. Consequently, property owners near the levee systems of Compton Creek and Dominguez Channel may soon be required to purchase a mandatory flood insurance policy if they have mortgages from federally regulated or insured lenders.

Because of the hardship that mandatory flood insurance may pose to property owners across the country and an \$18 billion deficit in the Program, the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate are considering legislation to overhaul the Program. However, changes to ensure the solvency of this national safety-net program must include flood insurance rates that are fair, equitable, and reflect the true risk posed to property owners.

MOTION

MOLINA _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

- M O R E -

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors instruct the Chief Executive Office and Department of Public Works to support legislation to reauthorize and reform the Program with provisions such as risk-based flood insurance, mapping of flood hazards based on actual flood risk, and affordable flood insurance for residents and businesses in Los Angeles County.

WE, FURTHER, MOVE that the Chief Executive Office and Department of Public Works oppose any proposals which would significantly increase the annual flood insurance premium or impose costly new flood insurance requirements that would affect property owners and communities in Los Angeles County.

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